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Obituaries

Fred Ronald Toombs

Fred Ronald Toombs, 71, of Nampa, ID, died Tuesday, December 25, 2007. A viewing was held from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, December 28, at Zeyer Funeral Chapel in Nampa, ID. A viewing was also held from 9-9:45 a.m. on December 29 at the Nampa 25th Ward LDS Chapel with funeral services following at 10 a.m. A graveside service was conducted at 3 p.m. in the Wendell Cemetery, Wendell, ID.

He was born on Aug. 7, 1936, in Wells, Nev. to William Addison and Harriet Hackwell Toombs. He started working at about 14 in service stations in Wells. After graduating from Wells High School, he enlisted in the Navy. After boot camp and service in California, he was transferred to the Naval Air Station in Argancia, Newfoundland for two years. He was then transferred to Davisville, R.I., while a naval base was built in the Bahamas during the Korean War. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy Seabees in 1958, and returned to Wells where he married Nadine Storms in 1959.

He worked for Wells



Fred Ronald Toombs

Rural Electric Company from 1960-1961, and then was transferred to Wendover, UT to serve as district manager for the power company until 1966. He returned to Wells Rural Electric Company until 1974, and then went to work for Wheatland Rural Electric Company as manager. In 1978 he accepted the manager's position at Columbia Basin Electric in Heppner, where he remained until retirement in 1999.

Mr. Toombs is survived by: his wife, Mary Nadine Toombs; children Lourinda Ann Beierle of Pinedale, WY, Ronald Lewis Toombs of Boardman, Patti Lynn Berman of Baltimore, MD, and Wendy Jolene Hamlin of Kuna, ID; ten grandchildren; and one step-grandchild.

Mustang wrestlers bring home medals

By Mark Lemmon

The Heppner wrestling team had a busy week last week traveling to Sherman County on Tuesday, December 18, North Powder on Friday, December 21, and then Elgin on Saturday, December 22. Overall, it was one of the most successful weeks in the history of the young wrestling program.

The Mustangs finished fourth out of nine teams in the Union Holiday tournament at Powder Valley High School. Heppner finished behind the teams from Elgin, Umatilla and Ontario.

Chance Day led the team with an individual championship at 145 pounds. Day earned the gold medal by pinning his opponents in all of his matches.

Jarreid Miller, Dillon Lutchter and Spencer Palmer all came home with silver medals by finishing as the runner up in their weight classes.

Grant Smith (112 pounds) and Wacy Coil (160 pounds) each won bronze medals.

One of the biggest cheers from the crowd came when Tomas Elguezabal, who placed fifth, won the first match of his wrestling career by pinning an Imbler opponent in the first round. "I'm still not sure how I did it," Elguezabal said after the win. "I was so focused in the moment that I couldn't hear the crowd or the coaches. I just felt a head-and-arm and him in bad position, so I just threw it."

On Saturday night at the 11-team Elgin Invite tournament, Chance Day again made it to the championship bout to face Jake



Top Photo: Heppner wrestlers show off their medals and ribbons won during a tournament. Bottom Photo: Thomas Elguezabal faces off with his opponent.

Kennedy, last season's state champion from Elgin. After leading early on in the match, Day eventually lost to finish second.

Grant Smith, who just started his first ever year of wrestling this month, repeated his bronze medal performance by pinning his final two opponents from Umatilla and Imbler. Spencer Palmer also earned a third place medal by winning a tough match in the consolation championship. Palmer was able to outscore his opponent from LaGrande with a couple of takedowns during the match and then a

crucial reversal in the final thirty seconds to secure the win.

Jarreid Miller placed fourth at 119 pounds, losing to J. Harris from Elgin in the consolation championship.

Trent Miles, Wacy Coil, Dillon Lutchter and Justin Yocum also won matches for Heppner but finished out of the top four placing positions. Because of weather and the late hour, the fifth/sixth place matches were not wrestled.

The Mustangs will be back in action on January 5 at the Riverside Rumble in Boardman.

Heppner JV girls take down Riverside in heated battle

By Alita Nelson

After the Christmas festivities were over the Heppner JV girls came out on December 27 and showed that they could win a game with determination. The girls won their game 42 to 38 against Riverside. They are now 3-2 for the season.

Kassey Wilson and Torri Lovgren led the team in scoring with six for six from the line and a combined 12 points from the floor. Lindsay Cutsforth had six, Mercedes Garrett had five, Emily Thompson with four, Taighler Dougherty with three and Amber Gray, Melissa West and Keshawna Talamantes all with two points each.

During the JV boy's game, the team was unable to get the lead once Riverside took it in the first quarter. Chris Lien scored 10 points with Joe Pranger and Jordan



Keshawna Talamantes puts the ball up against Riverside. -Photo by Alita Nelson

Hatfield each scoring seven, Jared Hedman with four, Bryan Holland with three, Brett Harrison, Dan White,

Kyle Fuchs all scoring two and Ian Murray with one. But it was just not enough to beat those Pirates.

Heppner Garden Club to meet at Willow Creek Diner

The Willow Creek Diner will be the meeting place for the Heppner Garden Club's first meeting for the New Year. Kathy and John Marick will be the hosts. The meeting will be at 7 p.m. John will be sharing his tips on composting and his green house skills. John grows delicious tomatoes as well as other plants.

Heppner Garden Club is open to the public and adds beauty and many worthwhile projects to the city of Heppner.

Holly Rebekah Logge to host card party

Holly Rebekah Lodge will be hosting their monthly card party on January 5 starting at 7 p.m. at the Lodge Hall in Lexington. The cost is \$5 per person and is open to the public.

Ione JV drops three pre-Christmas games

The Ione JV boys dropped three games in their pre-Christmas campaign, losing to Riverside, South Wasco County and Pilot Rock.

Against Riverside on the road on December 18, the Cardinals kept it close in the first half, trailing just 18-21 at halftime. But a 20-0 run in the third quarter knocked Ione out of contention. The final score was 61-33.

Marco Juarez and Tanner Rietmann led the Ione team in scoring with 10 points each. RJ Ramos added seven and Gunner Jessen and Matt Coleman had three each.

Luke Bradfield had a strong outing under the basket, leading the team with nine rebounds. Tanner Rietmann had eight.

"We had a great first half," said Coach Jim Swanson "but had a complete turnaround in the second half, especially the third quarter. It was a combination of our letdown in the second half and their very aggressive play that killed us in the third quarter. I was proud of the kids' all around desire though," said Swanson.

The story against South Wasco County in Ione on December 20 played out in a similar fashion. The Cardinals actually held a 17-14 halftime lead but the Redsidies outscored them 20-4 in the third quarter to take a commanding lead. The teams played even in the fourth with the final score 47-34 in favor of South Wasco County.

Matt Coleman led the team in scoring with 13 points. RJ Ramos added 10. Ramos also led the team in rebounds with nine and steals with six.

"We shot the ball 68 times but it just wouldn't fall for us," said Coach Jim Swanson. "Still, they never quit." Swanson commended RJ Ramos and Matt Coleman for leading the offense and Luke Bradfield on his rebounding and screening out.

The end of their busy basketball week found the Cardinal JV team on the road at Pilot Rock on December 21. The team matched the Rockets score for score in the first quarter but was outscored 20-7 in the second to fall behind 32-19 at the half. The Cards outscored their opponent by two in the second half but were unable to overcome that second quarter deficit and lost the game 57-46.

Tanner Rietmann led the Cards in scoring with 17 points. Matt Coleman was also in double figures with 13. Dalton Campbell had a good night leading the team with eight rebounds and five assists which included "some great inside passes" said Coach Jim Swanson.

"Again we played great for 3 1/3 quarter. This time we melted down in the second quarter," said Coach Swanson. "I don't mind going cold for a few minutes but we let the other team get hot and it makes it tough to catch up." Swanson did see some positives though. "It's been fun watching them improve every game," he said.

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